

a Versatile Remote Control Manager (VRCM) resident in the memory of the set-top terminal,

wherein the VRCM forwards a key code to the at least one application, and

wherein the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function for the at least one key or a sequence of keys when the at least one key is selected on the versatile remote control unit by a user.

19. The versatile user interface system according to Claim 18, wherein the versatile remote control unit includes a display for displaying at least one soft key generated by the VRCM.

20. The versatile user interface system according to Claim 18, wherein the at least one soft key displays an application type to allow the VRCM to recognize that subsequent soft key selections correspond to the at least one application selected by the user.

21. The versatile user interface system according to Claim 18, wherein the VRCM causes the display to show the mapping for the corresponding key code function associated with the at least one application.

22. The versatile user interface system according to Claim 18, wherein the versatile remote control unit displays a plurality of icons, one of the plurality of icons being associated with the at least one application.

23. The versatile user interface system according to Claim 17, wherein the set-top terminal is connected to a CATV communication system.

24. A cable television system, comprising:

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a set-top terminal including a central processing unit and memory for processing and storing communication data, the set-top terminal connected to a CATV communication system;

a display device operatively coupled to the set-top terminal;

at least one application resident memory of the set-top terminal;

a versatile remote control unit having at least one key for sending control signals to the set-top terminal to invoke the at least one application of the set-top terminal; and

a plurality of software and application programming interface (API) routines resident in memory of the set-top terminal,

wherein at least one of the plurality of software and API routines interact with the at least one application by forwarding a key code for the at least one application, and

wherein the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function for the at least one key or a sequence of keys on the versatile remote control unit when the at least one key on the versatile remote control unit is selected by a user.

25. The cable television system according to Claim 24, wherein the plurality of software and API routines comprises a Versatile Remote Control Manager (VRCM).